N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Mulhauser et al.

07/886,689

May 20, 1992

IMPLANTABLE PROSTHESIS AND METHOD AND APPARATUS

FOR LOADING AND DELIVERING AN IMPLANTABLE

PROSTHESIS

Examiner:

Nguyen, D.

Art Unit:

3308

Batch No:

S35

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

> STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicants hereby make of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified).

A copy of each of the above-identified information is enclosed unless otherwise indicated on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). It is respectfully requested that:

- The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
- The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
- 3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

#19

. Serial No.

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By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants make no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants make no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants make no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by Applicants, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Docket No. B0221/7049 Dated: May 25, 1994

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